

# How to Speak Arabic Sentences

\*[LinguisticMiracle.com](http://LinguisticMiracle.com)\*

Arabic is an amazingly flexible language, which will make it easy for you to speak Arabic to people so long as you follow certain rules.

There are 2 stages of speaking Arabic; the most **basic** stage, and **advanced** stages which people who are experts of the language enjoy (this is known as *balaaghah*).

You're going to understand the most **basic** stage, just so you can speak Arabic and people can understand you, just so you can get a feel of how to make basic sentences. Once you get used to these sentences, you can then have paragraphs of discussion.

## Before starting:

### PreConditions:

**1** - You need to **Understand** the language when you hear it. The more vocabulary (words) and grammar you know, the better.

[We have already made the book; '[Learn to Understand Arabic in 12 Colored Tables](#)' to get an understanding of the language.]

**2 -Vocabulary** is most important so you can maintain a long conversation, Google translate (<http://translate.google.com>) is good for helping in your vocabulary (English to Arabic translator).

So is [Ejtaal.net Almanac dictionary](#), and [Project Root List Quran](#) are also useful.

**3 -Grammar** is important to get a feel of - because if you don't say words properly, your lack of knowledge of arabic is exposed.

In simple terms - the more you already know of Arabic, the better.

### Who this article is for:

People who can understand Arabic, but find it hard to connect words together to speak Arabic in sentences.

Let's begin:

To speak sentences at the most basic level, all you need to have is a bunch of **objects (nouns)**, **actions (verbs)** and **connective words (harf/huroof)** which will work together to form the sentence.

In your sentence, related words will need to **maintain the same pattern** in the following;

i - **Gender**

ii - **Definite / indefinite** form ('THE' or 'A')

iii - the **Vowel marks** on the words' last letter. (Raf'/Nasb/Jarr forms)

i - **GENDER:**

Number (i) is just like in english or any other language.

Example:

'The big man, he is eating tasty food in his house.

al-RajulU al-KabeerU ya'kulU Ta'aamAn LadheedhAn fee BaytI-hi'.

Looking at (i) from Arabic and English (and any languages perspective) - '*the big Man, he is Eating tasty food in his house*' makes sense.

X - We do not say 'the man SHE is eating tasty food.' Because you would say '**HE**' for a man.

Point (i) is now clear, and all languages agree with this.

ii - **DEFINITE or Indefinite (Specific or non-Specific - 'THE' or 'A'):**

Point (ii) is also easy to understand.

Al-Rajulu al-Kabeeru = **the** Big Man.

English does not have this, but simply put, when you add 'AL' (meaning '**the**' or referring to something **specific**) - it implies that thing SPECIFICALLY. (i.e. THE)

Example:

AL-Rajul = **THE** man. (a **specific** man)

Compared to:

Rajulu**N** = **A** man. (**not** anyone **specifically** because there is no 'AL').

Adding an Adjective:

Now let's add an **Adjective** [ صِفَة ] (**Attribute**) to describe this Man.

Al Rajulu **Al-Kabeeru** = the **Big** Man

[NOTE: In Arabic:- **Adjectives (Attributes)** are added **AFTER** the **Noun (object)**, unlike English where Adjectives (Attributes) are mentioned before the Noun.]

This '**AL**' on both implies **Definiteness**, Definite means there is no; '**A**', '**Is**', '**Are**' type of words in this phrase, it is only '**THE**'.

If there was no 'AL', those words would be added. (i.e. **A** man, **Are** men etc.)

I.e. Rajulu**N** **KabeeruN** = '**A**' Man '**Is**' big.

How to write 'The' or 'A' in Arabic:

If there is '**AL**' ('The') at the beginning - there is no '**N**' (meaning: '**A**') at the end of the word. | If there is no '**AL**' before the word, then it will have a letter **N** [tanween] at the end to show it is **indefinite (not specific)** - meaning ('**A**').

Example:

AL-Rajulu\_ (no '**N**' attached at end) = **THE** man.

\_\_\_ - Rajulu**N** (no '**AL**' attached at beginning) = **A** man.

How to write 'Is' or 'Are' in Arabic:

If there is part definite (i.e. AL-Rajul [the Man]) and part indefinite (**kabeer-uN**) - then it looks like the following:

AL-Rajulu **KabeeruN** = **The** Man **IS** big.

Compared to: AL-Rajulu **Al-Kabeeru** (= **The Big** Man) [no 'a', or 'is' is mentioned].

Also compared to: Rajulu**N** **KabeeruN** (= **A** Man **is** Big)

Or: Rajulu**N** **al-Kabeeru** = **a** Big Man

SUMMARY:

Al Rajulu **Al-Kabeeru** = the **Big** Man

Rajulu**N** Kabeeru**N** = 'A' Man 'Is' big.

Al-Rajulu Kabeeru**N** = **The** Man **IS** big.

Rajulu**N** al-Kabeeru = **a**Big Man

### iii -This 3rd step is unique to Arabic:

The 'mood' of the word is shown through the vowel mark/sound on a words last letter.

What is the 'mood' of a word? The vowel on the last letter of a word **tells *what* the word is doing** in the sentence.

We have touched upon this in our [I'raab\\* table](#) already, so refer to this for the basics:



Any word in a sentence can either be a; **Doer**, **Doing**, **Targeted Object**, or **Owner** of something else, etc:

'**Doers**' [faa'il] and '**Doings**' (Actions - Fi'l) & often **Default** words usually end with a '**U**' sound on the end of the word. (known as: **Raf'**/**maRfoo'**)

**Targetted Objects**, **Descriptions**, or '**receiving Attention**' words often end in '**A**'. (known as: **Nasb**/**maNsoob**)

'**Owners**' often end with '**I**' on the end. **Harf al Jarr** (small words like 'Fee', 'Alaa etc.) words also make the word after it have an '**I** on its end letter'. (known as: **Jarr**/**maJroor**)

**Conditional statements** add a **sukoon** (silent pause) on a word [meaning: **no vowels are pronounced** on the last letter].

**Mabni** [ مبني ] (meaning: '**made**') words do not follow the patterns mentioned above. They have to be learnt separately.

Let's look at an example:

Zayd**U** Darb**U** 'Amr**A**  
Zayd Hit 'Amr

We see that **Zayd** is the '**Doer**' (**U**), he is '**Doing**' (**U**) **Hitting** (Darb**U**), and '**Amr**' has an '**A**' at the end because he is being the **Targetted Object**/receiving **Attention**.

Example 2:

Bayt**U**llahi - (broken down: Bayt**u** Allahi) = Allah's House) [**Owner** & **Default**]

Example 3:

Zayd**A** Darb**U** 'Amr**U**  
'Amr Hit **Zayd**

This one's tricky, isn't it? Compare it to example 1.

The reason why **Zayd** in this one is being '**Hit**' is because he has got the '**A**' written on the end of his name. '**Amr**' is the '**Hitter**' because he is the '**Doer**' (faa'il) [**U on the end.**]

This is an example of how powerful, sensitive and flexible the Arabic language is.

### NOTE:

1 - Mabni [ مبني ] (meaning: 'made') words do not follow the patterns mentioned above.

Example: Daraba = He Hit.

Because the word 'DarabA' has an 'A' at the end, it does **not** mean it is a 'Targetted Object'. Rather, this word has an 'A' at the end due to it being made that way with other rules of the language. **Your job with Mabni words is to simply memorise them as they are**, and if you ever doubt if a word is mabni or not, you will have to ask someone with knowledge of Arabic, or continue learning.

2 - A deeper study of grammar (nahw) will show you that **vowels on the last letter of a word change for other rules too**. So further study of Arabic is important, this article only intends to show you the extreme basics to maintain a conversation whereby Arabs can atleast understand you.

The **Vowel** on a **Object** & it's **Attribute**'s last letter - have to be the **SAME**.

Looking at the sentence made earlier in (ii);

We see that both these have a Damma ('U' sound) on its last letter;

Al-Rajul**U** Al-Kabeer**U** (The Big Man) - (Noun - Adjective both have 'U' on the end)  
Rajul**UN** Kabeer**UN**. - (Noun - Adjective both have 'U' on the end) (A Man **IS** Big)

This is important so people **KNOW** that the **Attribute** belongs to the **Noun** (in this case, the 'Noun' will be the Man):

Al-Rajul**U** [noun] Al-Kabeer**U** [Adjective/Attribute], ya'ku**U** (Faa'il [Doer = he] & Fi'l - Doing word) Ta'aam**AN** (Targetted Object has Fat-ha/zabar on last letter)  
Ladheedh**AN** (Description).

"The Big Man (he)is Eating a Tasty Food"

### Commentary:

- i - We see 'the Man' (AL-Rajul) [a **specific** man] is being mentioned.
- ii - His Attribute is mentioned after him (which differs to english where an Attribute is mentioned first. I.e. the **Big** Man)
- iii - ya'ku**U** ('ukl = eat food) and the 'ya' = 'he' (present-future tense) [see 'Learn Arabic in 12 colored Tables' book to see differences of Past vs Present-Future tense].
- iv - Ta'aam**AN** = 'A' food (if it was 'AL-Ta'aamA' = 'THE food') (Targetted Object/recieving attention - because it is being eaten.)
- v - Ladheedh**AN** = 'A **tasty**' (if it was 'AL-LadheedhA' = 'THE tasty') (Description)

Let's try one together;

So now just imagine any verb or noun, think of some adjectives (Attributes) and some huroof (words which connect a sentence together.)

Let's try it.

What **Verb** (doing word - fi'l) shall we use?

Rakaba\* = he Rode (past tense) / yaRkabu = he is Riding (present tense).

\*[BIG NOTE: Rakaba is a 'Doing' [verb]. But it has no 'U' on its end. This is because it is a 'mabni' word.

What Noun **Doer** (faa'il) shall we use?

al-Rajulu = the Man

What **'Targetted Object'** (maf'ool bihi) shall we use?

HimaarAN = A donkey

What **Attribute** (Sifah) shall we use to **describe** the Targetted Object?

Saree'An = Fast.

Let's now Join the sentence together:

1)Al-RajulU2)Rakaba 3)HimaarAN 4)Saree'An 5)Fee Bayti-h.

1)The Man 2)Rode 3)a Donkey 4)Fast 5)in his House.

1)[Doer = **U** (raf'). 2)Doing = **U** (raf') [in mabni/made form so no 'U' is shown]. 3) **Object being Targetted = A (nasb)**. 4) **Description = A (nasb)** [it is similar to (3) in vowel because it describes (3 - the object)]. 5) **Harf al Jarr (Fee)** caused word after it (Bayt) to have ' **i** ' on its last letter too.)

Shifting the Sentence Structure for Attention:

**Rakaba** al-RajulU al-KabeerU HimaarAn saree'An fee Bayti-h = A big man was **Riding** a donkey, fast - in his house.

The Verb (Action) is placed at the beginning of this sentence compared to the sentence before to EMPHASISE the Action. I.e. the first word the Arab hears is 'Riding' so that is the main focus of attention in this sentence. Compared to the earlier sentence which had emphasis on the MAN doing the riding.



## Summary:

We learn that;

**1** - Arabic is so flexible, that 'Doers' [Faa'il], the 'Doings' [Fi'l], and the Targetted Object [Maf'ool bihi] can go almost anywhere in a sentence, so long as the vowel on the last letter is added correctly.

**2** -

'Doers' [faa'il] and 'Doings' (Actions - Fi'l) & often **Default** words usually end with a 'U' sound on the end of the word. (known as: Raf'/maRfoo')

**Targetted Objects, Descriptions, or 'receiving Attention'** words often end in 'A'. (known as: Nasb/maNsoob)

'Owners' often end with 'I' on the end. **Harf al Jarr** (small words like 'Fee', 'Alaa etc.) words also make the word after it have an 'I' on its end letter. (known as: Jarr/maJroor)

**Conditional statements** add a **sukoon** (silent pause) on a word [meaning: no vowels are pronounced].

**Mabni** [ مبني ] (meaning: 'made') words do not follow the patterns mentioned above. They have to be learnt separately.

**3 - AL = "The"**. When there is no 'AL' (meaning: 'The') but '**N**' at the end of a word instead], you can translate it as the words; '**A**', '**is**', '**are**', and similar words which show indefiniteness.

(i.e. AL-sayyaarah = THE car. | SayaaratuN = A car.)

**4** - Nouns which have **Adjective/s** (Sifah/an Attribute) come **AFTER** the **Noun (Doer)** in Arabic, unlike English.

(i.e. al-SayyaartU al-KabeerU = the Big Car [in arabic, the word 'Car' was mentioned first, unlike English.] )

**5** - The Vowel marks on a Nouns last letter and it's **Attribute (Sifah)** HAS TO BE THE SAME to show they are related to (describing) each other in the sentence.

(as seen in number 4's example, both words have a 'U' at the end.)

### Almost finished:

- i - So now you know that **you can put words in almost any order** in a sentence.
- ii - You know the **vowel signs to add to prove who is doing what** in the sentence (known as the 'mood' [i'raab ( إعراب )]) of the word).
- iii - You know **how to add connective words in a sentence**, in addition to simple words like, 'the', 'is', 'are' etc.
- iv - You know **how to give Attributes (Sifah) to a Noun** in the sentence.

So in simple words; **you can now make sentences inshaa' Allah, which can turn into paragraphs of discussion** in Arabic.

All you need to do now is build up on your Arabic vocabulary (which we've already said - you can use google translate (<http://translate.google.com>) for, or Quran translations, or Lexicons [from <http://ejtaal.net> Almanac dictionary].

### To Finish:

I'll leave you with some words to play around with;

#### Nouns and Objects:

**AL = THE** | (no 'AL' at the beginning of a Noun, but '**N**' at the *end* of a Noun/Object = '**A**')  
'A'

Ana = I

Anta = You

Rajul = Man. | Rijaal = Men (plural)

Mar'ah = Woman | Nisaa' = Women (plural)

walad = boy | baneen = sons

bint = daughter | banaat = daughters

sayyaarat = car

Maa' = water

### **Verbs (Doing words):**

La'aba = he Played / La'abat = **she** Played |  
yaL'abu (he is Playing [present tense]) | yaL'aboon = they [males] are Playing

Sharaba = he Drank | Sharabat = she Drank  
yaShrabu = he is Drinking - yaShraboon = they [males] are Drinking. | taShrab = she is Drinking - taShrabNa = they [females] are Drinking.

jahada = he Struggled / Jahadat = she Struggled.  
yaJhadu (he is Struggling [present tense]) | yaJhadoon = they [males] are Struggling.  
taJhad (she is Struggling) - taJhadNa = they [females] are Struggling.

### **Connectives:**

Fee = In  
'Alaa = On  
Bi = With  
Kaana = Was  
Wa = And  
Fa = So / Then  
Min = From

(More can be found in the 'Connective words' chapter: '[Learn to Understand Arabic in 12 Colored Tables](#)' )

A sentence using these words could be;

Ana aShrabU al-Maa'A wa a'kuLU al-Ta'aamA min sayyaaratI-hi

I am Drinking the Water and I am eating the Food from his car.

Explanation: (Mabni, Doer, Doing, Targetted Object of Attention, Connective word, Doer, Doing, Targetted Object of Attention, Harf al Jarr connective word, Noun which has been forced by the 'min' to have an 'I' on its end), and 'hu' [meaning 'his'] has become 'hi' (pronounced 'hee') for easy pronunciation purposes (imitating the word before it of having 'i' on the end).

If you can't understand this sentence, then read the Book: '[Learn to Understand Arabic in 12 Colored Tables](#)'

Keep practising with the above samples to make your own sentences.